

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **cancel** Claims 2, 4, 6, 18, 20, 23 and 30 and **amend** Claims 1, 13, 15, 25 and 27 as indicated:

1. (currently amended) An input unit comprising:
- a sensor which detects a displacement;
 - a plate-like main unit supporting said sensor;
 - a finger support member pivotally coupled to said main unit;
 - said sensor, said main unit, and said finger support member defining a plate-like structure when said finger support member is pivoted inline with said main unit;
 - at least two open-close members, pivotally coupled to said main unit, each open-close member having a different switch coupled thereto;
 - said sensor, said main unit, said finger support member, and said open-close member defining a plate-like structure when said finger support member and said open-close member are pivoted inline with said main unit, wherein operation of the respective switches of said open-close members is effected by sandwiching said finger support member between two provided fingers, wherein the plate-like structure is stowable in a card slot of an information processing unit.

2-12 (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) An input unit comprising:
- a sensor that detects a displacement;
 - a plate-like main unit supporting said sensor;
 - a finger support member pivotally coupled to said main unit;
 - said sensor, said main unit, and said finger support member defining a plate-like structure when said finger support member is pivoted inline with said main unit; and
 - at least one switch coupled to said main unit, said switches being operable when the provided fingertips are placed between said main unit and said finger support member [[when]] such that a user's fingers support said finger support member [[is pivoted in an]] in a pivoted open state, wherein a plurality of said finger support members are provided in a configuration

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such that fingertip insertion is nearly parallel to the pivotal direction of said finger support members.

14. (original) The input unit according to Claim 13, wherein the plate-like structure is storable in any one of a card slot and a free space of an information processing unit.

15. (currently amended) [[Apparatus]] An apparatus comprising:

an information processing unit;

an input unit;

said input unit further comprising;

a plate-like main unit having a sensor for detecting a displacement;

a finger support member pivotally coupled to said main unit; [[and]]

at least two open-close members, pivotally coupled to said main unit, each of the at least two open-close members having a respective switch coupled thereto;

said main unit and said finger support member defining a plate-like structure when said finger support member is pivoted inline with said main unit, wherein operation of the respective switches is effected by sandwiching said finger support member between two fingers; and

at least one switch coupled to said main unit, wherein said switches are operable when the provided fingertips are placed between said main unit and said finger support member such that a user's fingers support said finger support member in a pivoted open state.

16. (original) Apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said input unit, when configured as said plate-like structure, is storable in any one of a card slot and a free space of said information processing unit.

17-20. (cancelled)

21. (previously presented) Apparatus according to Claim 15, having a plurality of said open-close members corresponding to and placed for engagement with that number of fingers provided for performing input operations.

22-24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) Apparatus according to Claim ~~[[23]]~~ 15, wherein said finger support member is singular and configured such that fingertip insertion is nearly vertical to the pivotal direction of said single finger support member.

26. (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

an information processing unit;

an input unit, said input unit including a plate-like main unit having a sensor for detecting a displacement;

a plurality of finger support members pivotally coupled to said main unit, said main unit and said finger support members defining a plate-like structure when said finger support members are pivoted inline with said main unit;

at least one switch coupled to said main unit, said at least one switch being operable when fingertips are placed between said main unit and said finger support member ~~[[when] such that a user's fingers support said finger support member [[is pivoted in an]] in a pivoted open state;~~ wherein said plurality of said finger support members are provided in a configuration such that fingertip insertion is nearly parallel to the pivotal direction of said finger support members.

28. (original) Apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein said input unit, when configured as said plate-like structure, is storable in any one of a card slot and a free space of said information processing unit.

29-32. (cancelled)